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European Union

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Parliament approves EU Food and Feed Control Proposal

2004

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Report Highlights:

Earlier this week, the European Parliament adopted the Commission's food and feed control proposal. This is a framework regulation establishing the legal basis for all future feed and food controls, including import controls. The new regulation will start to apply on January 1, 2006. Final adoption and publication in the Official Journal will take place in the next few weeks.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Brussels USEU [BE2]
[E2]

An important change to the Commission's original proposal includes the withdrawal of the demand for penal sanctions. The European Parliament also amended the original articles on the charging of fees. In the final text the level of mandatory fees for the inspection of animals and animal products is left to the Member States. Member States may but are not required to collect fees to cover the costs occasioned by official controls in other areas.

Of particular interest to third countries was the requirement for third countries to provide control plans, similar to the control plans that are required from Member States. The language used in the final text states that the Commission will be responsible for requesting third countries to provide **information** on the general organization and management of sanitary controls, but no longer requires formal control plans to be submitted.

The new feed and food control regulation will enter into effect on January 1, 2006 which is one later than originally proposed.

A more detailed analysis will be provided separately upon publication of the final text.

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